Bulletin No 3 - May (final)

May brought no severe storms, no frosts and no tendency to drought, contrary to the experience of last year; in short it proved highly favorable to nesting birds and to animal life generally. Nevertheless, certain birds, particularly the Warblers have been less numerous both in species and individuals than in any season for the past ten years. As in 1921 no "Warbler Waves" were noticed, but the outstanding ornithological fact of the season was the remarkable paucity of individual birds; seldom have our best observers trained eye or glass upon more than one or two of this family at a given time; whereas in the most favorable years a whole orchard or woodland has seemed alive with hundreds of these interesting birds all intent upon gleaning their insect-food from flower and leaf. Our records show but 15 species as against 21 of last year, while in individuals the number was reduced to insignificance. What is the explanation of this scarcity? An answer to this question is probably to be found in the following facts: the Warbler migration reaches a climax in average seasons at about May 18: while fruit-trees are in high flowering tide at about May 10; this year the fruits were from three to four weeks ahead of their usual schedule: and a cold period, which automatically checked insect development and activity, set in in early April and lasted until early May. The result of such conditions in the two critical months, - April and May -, was, we believe, first to accelerate the migration of the insect eating birds, of which the Warblers are conspicuous, then to check it on about April 11; then to accelerate it again early in May, when our Fruits were past the flowering period. As a result of these conditions the mass of the migrating Warblers, we believe, hurried on to the north, crossing Ohio and Lake Erie in long night flights, in the case at least of certain species, without making a rendezvous at Cleveland; the few which have trickled in from the south to our neighborhood have been mostly the regular summer residents; this is rendered the more probable from the fact, as reported to Mrs. Dr. Ruedy, that the same scarcity has been noticed as far south as Columbus, Ohio.

- o -

79. Black and White Warbler; May 4, Wade Park; Professor Hulme; also Ambler Heights, Bird Class.
80. Least Flycatcher; May 4, Wade Pk., Prof. Hulme; May 11, Noble Rd., Mrs. Dr. Ruedy.
81. Blue-winged Warbler; May 5, Noble Rd., Mrs. Dr. Ruedy; May 6, Joplin's Valley, Willoughby, Willoughby Party.
82. Olive-backed Thrush; May 6, Joplin's Valley; Willoughby party.
83. Rough-winged Swallow; (7) May 6, Willoughby, Willoughby Party.
84. Long-billed Marsh Wren; May 6, Mentor Marsh, Willoughby Party.
85. Oven-bird; May 6, Willoughby, Willoughby Party.
86. Black-throated Green Warbler; May 6, Willoughby, Willoughby Party.
87. Blue-headed Vireo; May 6, Noble Rd., Mrs. Dr. Ruedy.
88. Common Tern; May 6, Mentor, Willoughby Party.
89. Cape May Warbler; May 11, Cleveland Hts., Professor Finfrock.
90. Pine Siskin; May 6, Willoughby, Willoughby Party.

91. Roughed [Ruffed] Grouse; May 6, Willoughby, with nest of 12 eggs; Willoughby Party.
92. Loggerhead Shrike; May 6, Willoughby, Willoughby Party.
93. Common Coot; May 6, Mentor Marsh, Willoughby Party.
94. Yellow-throated Vireo; May 6, Willoughby, Willoughby Party.
95. Great Herring Gull; May 6, Mentor, Willoughby Party.
96. Blue-winged Teal; May 6, Mentor, Willoughby Party.
97. Swamp Sparrow; May 6, Mentor Marsh, Willoughby Party.
98. Bufflehead Duck; May 6, Mentor Marsh (small flock), Willoughby Party.
99. Scarlet Tanager; May 6, Joplin's Valley, Willoughby Party; May 11, Noble Rd., Mrs. Dr. Ruedy.
100. Northern Water Thrush; May 6, Joplin's Valley(heard), Willoughby Party; also Chagrin Valley, Professor Hulme.
101. Nashville Warbler; May 6, Noble Rd., Mrs. Dr. Ruedy.
102. Bobolink; May 6, Chagrin Valley, Professor Hulme, also Willoughby, Willoughby Party.
103. Red-shouldered Hawk; May 6, Chagrin Valley, Professor Hulme.
104. Great Crested Flycatcher; May 7, Noble Rd., Mrs. Dr. Ruedy.
105. Whippoorwill; May 10, Noble Rd., Mrs. Dr. Ruedy.
106. Chestnut-sided Warbler; May 11, Wade Pk., Professor Hulme; May 11, Noble Rd., Mrs. Dr. Ruedy.
107. Magnolia Warbler; May 11, Wade Pk., Professor Hulme; May 12, one killed by flying against window of Biological Laboratory.
108. Rose-breasted Grosbeak; May 11, Wade Pk., Miss Wilcox and Professor Hulme; May 12, Cleveland Hts., Professor Finfrock;
109. Canadian Warbler; May 11, Wade Pk., Miss Wilcox.
110. Redstart; May 11, Joplin's Valley, Bird Class.
111. Little Green Heron; May 13, Lake View, Professor Hulme.
112. Yellow-billed Cuckoo; May 14, Noble Rd.
113. Blackburnian Warbler; May 18, Adelbert Campus, Professor Finfrock.
114. Little Blue Heron; May 21, Cleveland Hts., Professor Finfrock.

Francis H. Herrick.